

ORAL HYGIENE

Published Monthly

EDITED BY WM. W. BELCHER, D.D.S.

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IGNORANCE has been and is the deadliest enemy of civilization.

¶ It has cost more lives, wrecked more homes, and shattered more happiness than all the wars conducted by all the tyrants since the beginning of time.

¶ Only in modern times have men been able to develop a real defense against the terrific toll of human life.

¶ So far this defense has only been builded in small part. It will remain for the professional men of this and other countries to go on with the fight.

¶ How many people in your community know the real value of the conservation of teeth, of the effect of their decay on health?

¶ Dentists must broaden the scope of education which the war has started.

¶ The next meeting of the National Dental Association will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana October 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24, 1919.

C. V. Vignes, President

J. P. Wahl, Chairman Local Committee

Little Stories of Alloy Making (Three)

"Balanced" Alloys



ACCORDING to advertising claims, most alloys until recently have been "balanced" or "balanced in every batch."

Just what was meant by "balanced" was a matter of various interpretations.

The term originated with Dr. G. V. Black. He found that using different batches of metals in the same percentages did not give uniform results. So he resorted to trial formulas for each batch, adjusting them until the required result was obtained.

Thus he secured "balance" between expansion and contraction.

This method was necessary because, in his day, Dr. Black could not procure in small quantities metals of high purity and uniform behavior.

But now it is possible to procure such metals; and when they are used in definite proportions, undergoing standardized manufacturing processes, a definite result may be relied upon. Such is the method employed in the manufacture of

NEY-ALOY

There is no guesswork about its manufacture. We work with known quantities and the results are predetermined.

Price, 1 oz. \$1.50

5 ozs., \$7.00

Our new and complete price list sent on request.



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The J. M. NEY COMPANY
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HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT, U.S.A.

NEW GOLD
FOR
OLD GOLD
SILVER
PLATINUM
ETC.

ORAL HYGIENE

A JOURNAL FOR DENTISTS

VOLUME IX

MAY, 1919

NUMBER 5

DENTAL DISPENSARY IN MOTION

(Continued)

Here, for the first time, is shown the Rochester Dental Dispensary in action, not only self-contained, but as applying to outside interests; Prophylaxis and lectures in the public and parochial schools and institutions.



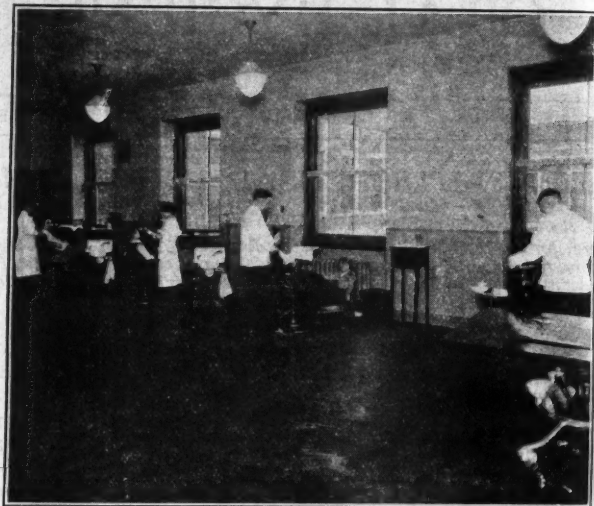
THE Orthodontia Department of the Rochester Dental Dispensary is entirely separate from the General Infirmary. It is located in the front of the West wing of the building, adjoining the examination and extraction departments, which make up the balance of the wing on the second floor. The Orthodontia Department is equipped with six dental chairs, operating cabinets, switchboards, steel record cabinet and shelves for models. It is in charge of Dr. Eda B. Schlencker, who at the time this is written has some 122 cases under treatment. The number increases daily.

¶ Dr. Schlencker is assisted by two dentists assigned from the General Infirmary. At intervals her assistants are changed, so that all of the internes acquire practical Orthodontia experience. Dr. Schlencker is a Hollander and all of her medical training and two years of dentistry were acquired in the Old Country. She attended medical college at Amsterdam and took up dentistry at Utrecht. She was graduated from the College of Dentistry of the University of Michigan after a one-year course in 1914.

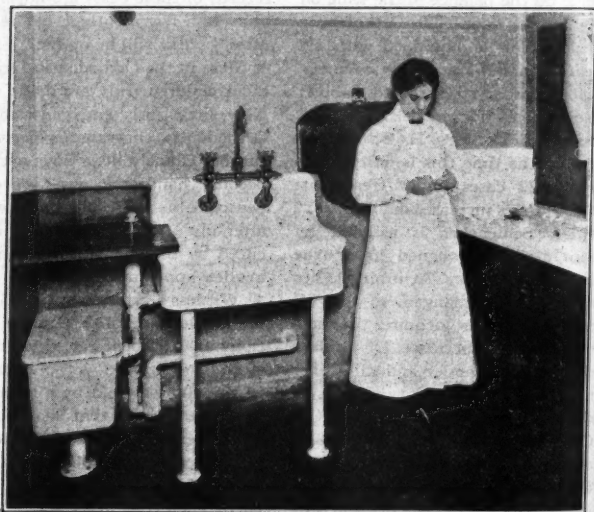
¶ Dr. Schlencker has little to say about her work, but the results she is obtaining talk for her. An accompanying photograph illustrates the cases she is handling. A greater part of the operations call for jaw expansion to make room for teeth. Unfortunately, because the photographic department of the Dispensary was not in use until recently, complete records of these cases are not available. In a few months "before and after" views will be on file.

¶ Here in the Orthodontia Department children truly are made over. Ugly little girls emerge from the Orthodontia chrysalis as pretty as can be. Homely little boys actually become handsome and proud as peacocks as a result. The whole after life of many children is influenced by the change for the better in their appearance.

¶ Witness a typical case. A 15 year old girl left school to secure a position in a Rochester department store. She applied without success and finally was told by a blunt but kindly employer that her crooked teeth were the cause. "Go to the Rochester Dental Dispensary," he said. "Have you teeth straightened. Then come back and I'll give you a position." The child conferred with her parents and her teacher



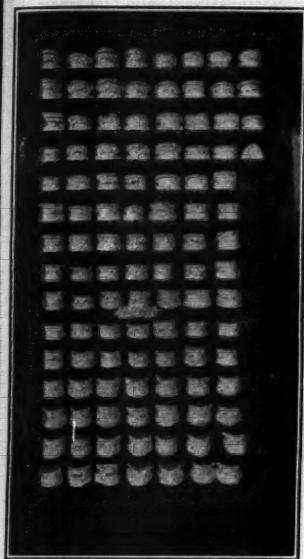
Section of Orthodontia Department



Dr. Eda B. Schlencker, in charge of Orthodontia Department, at her work bench.

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Models of cases in course of treatment in the Orthodontia Department, of which there are 123 at the present time.

and took the advice. In a few months her teeth were nearly normal and she had become attractive, rather than repulsive. She re-applied for work and the department store man failed to recognize her. He gave her a position without question. The girl in question received close to \$800 worth of dentistry for not more than \$10, paid five cents at a time, and including carfare.

¶ The Extracting Department is in charge of Dr. William R. J. Wallace, a practicing Rochester Exodontist, who has an assistant, also assigned from the General Infirmary. As in the Orthodontia Department, the internes alternate

in the extraction room and profit by the experience. When Dr. Wallace is away his place is filled by Dr. E. J. Pammenter, who also does most of the X-ray and photographic work. Dr. Pammenter is the Dispensary's all around man.

¶ As is the case in every dentist's practice, the handling of children in connection with extractions requires just the right kind of tact and management. Dr. Wallace fills his niche most acceptably. The department itself is finely equipped, and the administration of gas must not be overlooked. The most complete apparatus is available. There is a small waiting room for Extraction Department patients and two chairs, each in a separate room, are connected by an instrument room. The doors to the extraction rooms are sound proof, a necessary precaution with so many children in the building.

¶ Remaining in the West wing, but descending to the Mezzanine floor, we come to the photograph gallery and X-ray room, an examination room and a recovery room. The X-ray and photographic equipment, as already stated, is in charge of Dr. Pammenter and he has proven a most competent operator. This department is one of the most useful and attractive features of the institution. It is placed at the disposal of dentists and physicians in general practice and the cost of making photographs is greatly reduced. So far as the Dispensary is concerned, all departments make use of the facilities. The Orthodontia Department finds the X-ray of signal assistance.

¶ Descending now to the ground floor in the West wing, there remains the lecture room to be inspected.



Administering Gas in the Extraction Department.



X-RAY ROOM. Dentist is Dr. H. O. Brown, Superintendent of the General Infirmary.

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Lecture Room

This restful hall extends up into the Mezzanine floor and occupies the front of the building on the West side. From the Mezzanine floor there are entrances to a balcony, and a special stairway permits assemblages to leave the building without disturbing the rest of the Dispensary. The lecture room is expected to fill a long-felt want for the dental profession of Rochester. Lectures will be delivered to children, parents and the public on matters relating to the care of the teeth, oral hygiene and prophylaxis, by expert practitioners and teachers, who are competent to entertain and instruct. The room also is used by the Rochester Dental Society for meetings.

The East Wing of the Dispensary is mostly devoted to oral surgery, including a minutely equipped oper-

ating room of the sort found in well regulated hospitals. Here adenoids, tonsils, cleft palate, and hairlip cases and other mouth and throat conditions are to be remedied by a special staff of physicians, dentists and nurses. Work has not yet started in this department, due to the war, but every thing is in readiness to begin on ten minute's notice.

In an address before the Rochester Medical Association, Director Burkhardt said of this department:

“I hope with your assistance and that of the Department of Health and the school authorities, we may be able to accomplish something of value, and set a precedent for other cities to follow. There will be a department for operations for cleft palate and hairlip cases, and we shall endeavor to operate upon



ORAL SURGERY OPERATING ROOM.
This picture was posed by special permission.

babies as soon after birth as we are able to reach them. This will be done for two reasons: first, because, as you know, better results are obtained by early operations, and secondly, so that appliances may be made to spread the arches as soon as the first teeth are in position, in order to provide ample space for the second set, and thereby not only improve the mouth for the purpose of properly masticating the food, but to restore the contour of the face. Operations will be performed for the removal of tonsils and adenoids, but before these are done all carious cavities will be filled and the mouth placed in a thoroughly aseptic condition. This rule will be rigidly adhered to and every possible source of infection about the mouth removed, whether it be due to decayed teeth, alveolar

abscesses, or any other cause, before operations are performed. It is our theory that in order to prove anything of value in preventive dentistry, everything connected with the institution must be co-ordinated and made to harmonize as much as possible."

¶ The operating room is furnished in white. Splendid light is admitted from North windows and by way of a skylight. The "operation" pictured with this article was posed by dentists and oral hygienists from the General Infirmary to better show how the operating room will look when the oral surgery department gets under way. The floor of this room is of tile. Recessed surgical cabinets for instruments and appliances are ranged along the walls. The general color scheme, outside of the furnishings, is a light green.

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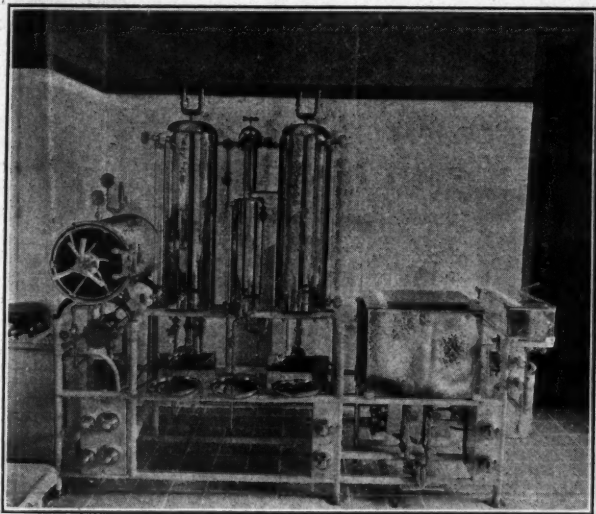
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Close by the operating room is a sterilizing room, and beyond it a surgeons' washroom. Next comes an etherizing room and then a surgical recovery room. Quarters are provided for nurses. There is an amazingly well fitted bathroom for patients, a kitchenette and two large bedrooms for boys and girls. If necessary it will be possible to keep children at the Dispensary upwards of two days.

On the Mezzanine floor in the East Wing is the balance of the oral surgery, including an emergency ward, the gift of Neville S. Hoff, editor of *The Dental Register*. Five roomy cribs, fitted with wheels, make it possible to move infants from room to room. Smaller cribs line the room, while steel tables add the finishing touch. Chairs for children of varying sizes and ages

are included in the furnishings. Close by is a nurses' room, equipped for permanent occupancy, and next to it an especially fitted bathroom for wee patients. Across the hall is a kitchen. There also is an examination room and a surgical waiting room, with pew-like seats calling to mind the arrangement in a church.

Returning to the ground floor, the general offices come to view, including those of the Superintendent of the building, Albert S. Masse, and those assigned to the Board of Directors and to Dr. Burkhardt. All of the executive offices are tastefully furnished and arranged on the lines of a well conducted business office in a large manufacturing plant. Mr. Masse, who also acts as Dr. Burkhardt's secretary, looks after the employees,



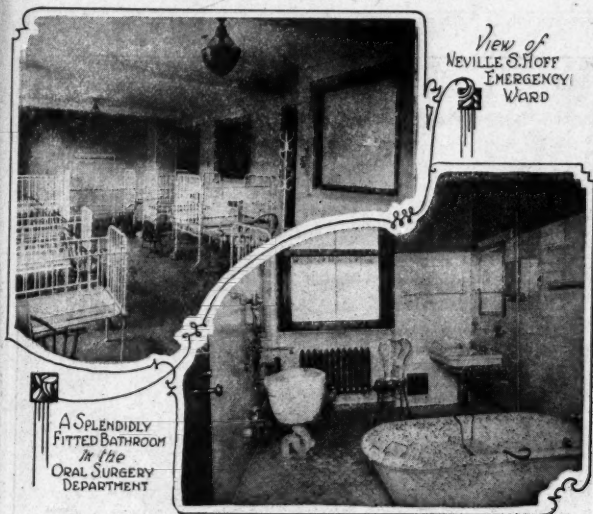
STERILIZING APPARATUS, just off the Oral Surgery Operating Room.



General Offices.



Director Harvey J. Burkhardt and his stenographer, Mrs. Bertha Salway at work in the Director's office.



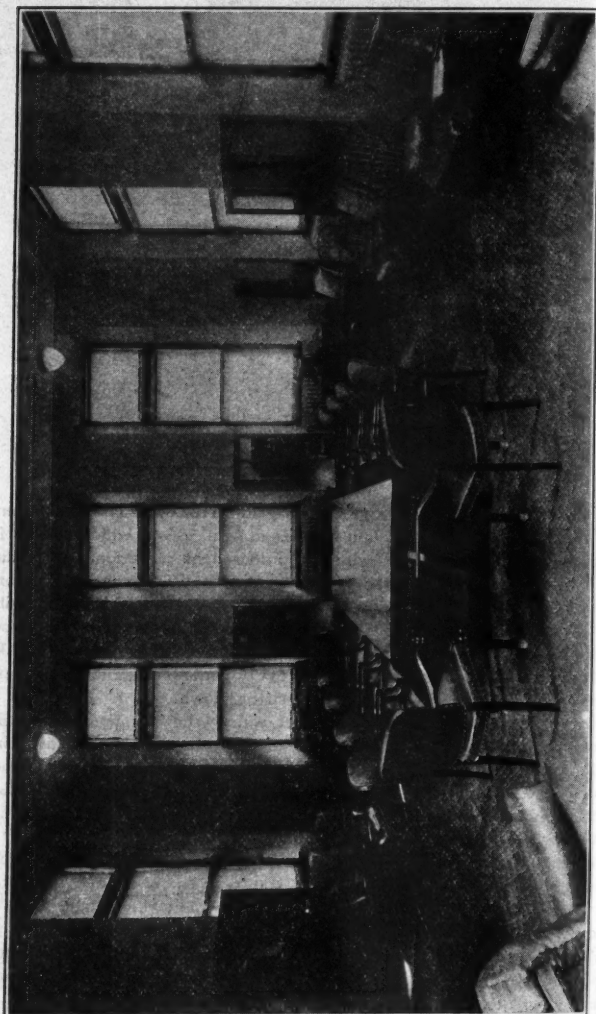
makes up the payroll and buys the supplies. His equipment includes a bank of steel letter files, which, with those in different parts of the building, cost \$2,000. The flooring of these rooms is of battleship linoleum.

Passing through a corridor, we come again to the East wing. In front is the Directors' room and library. This imposing room, so well illustrated, has oak inlaid doors. The floor is covered with battleship linoleum. The bookcases between the windows are of oak. The reading tables and desks are of mahogany, including the massive directors' table and chairs and the racks for current magazines, medical and dental publications. The doorway is quite ornate, with a carved wreath over the sill and with fluted columns on each side. There are chandeliers of ground glass, insuring soft and steady light,

restful to the eyes. The color scheme is a light green, which makes for proper light reflection. The ceiling is of white. The huge leather arm chairs, a few of which are visible in the photograph, are so comfortable and restful that one dislikes to do more than breathe upon sitting down.

Leaving the library and passing towards the rear of the East wing, one comes to the Museum where an exhibit of specimens, mostly dealing with the teeth of men, animals and finny creatures is in process of collection. The display shown in the accompanying photograph, and which later will be placed in glass cabinets, is the gift of the New York State Dental Society, as a mark of appreciation to Mr. Eastman.

Next door and to the extreme rear, is the Research Laboratory, the gift of the widow of the late Dr.



Director's Room and Library; one of the show spots of the Institution.

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The Museum, with a glimpse of the Research Laboratory through the open door in the background.

Rudolph H. Hofheinz of Rochester. This laboratory eventually will be a most important part of the Dispensary. Opportunity will be given members of the medical and dental professions to carry on their studies in conjunction with the regular staff of the institution. The laboratory will not be used to exploit theories or fads, but an endeavor made to learn the truth and apply the discoveries in a practical manner. The museum and library also are at the disposal of the twin professions for study and reference work.

The Dispensary basement is as much in use as the rest of the building. The front of the West wing is occupied by a women's locker and rest room, and the same location on the East side is devoted to the use of the men. Each rest room has shower baths and wash

room facilities and is comfortably furnished with easy chairs, writing desks, etc.

To the rear of the women's rest room is a cafeteria lunchroom and kitchen. This feature is not yet in active use, due to the absence of the oral surgery staff, but in a few months it will be humming with activity at meal time. The kitchen is equipped with most modern facilities, including section fans to carry away smoke and odor.

Back of the men's locker room is the stock and receiving room, in charge of Miss Agnes Henry, R. N. Here also is located the single outside entrance to the basement, under observation of the receiving clerk. Everything needed for the Dispensary comes into the building through the stock room, and here orders are sent for needed material.



Rudolph H. Hofheinz Research Laboratory.

Just outside the stock room is an electric automatic elevator, with doors of steel and wired glass. This elevator connects with all floors, including an entrance from the East end of the General Infirmary. The balance of the basement is given up to storage, to the oral hygienists' lecture room, a fan room, a finely equipped laundry, and to the workrooms of the janitor and janitress. The heating plant and boiler room is located in a one-story building, just back of the Dispensary proper. This building, together with a dwelling house occupied by the janitor and his wife, faces a rear street and occupies a fifty-foot lot. Deliveries are made by way of this lot, including coal and supplies. Coal is stored in 60-ton bins and automatic stokers feed three heating boilers with 100

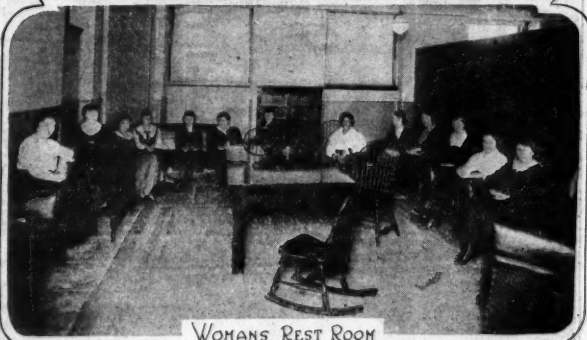
horsepower capacity each. The annual coal consumption for heating and ventilation is approximately 1,500 tons. Soft coal is used. The automatic stokers feed the coal, check the grates and insure not only the consumption of all the coal, but the smoke as well. The most frigid weather to date has not made necessary the use of more than two of the boilers, one being held in reserve in case of accident or repairs. The stoker is controlled by steam power, while the automatic regulator attachment is operated by water and air. Connected with the boiler room are hot water heaters, and a pump supplies a storage tank with compressed air up to 500 pounds pressure. Ordinarily a pressure of 30 pounds is used. Hot water is kept circulating through the Dispensary



MENS REST AND SMOKING ROOM



STOCK AND RECEIVING ROOM



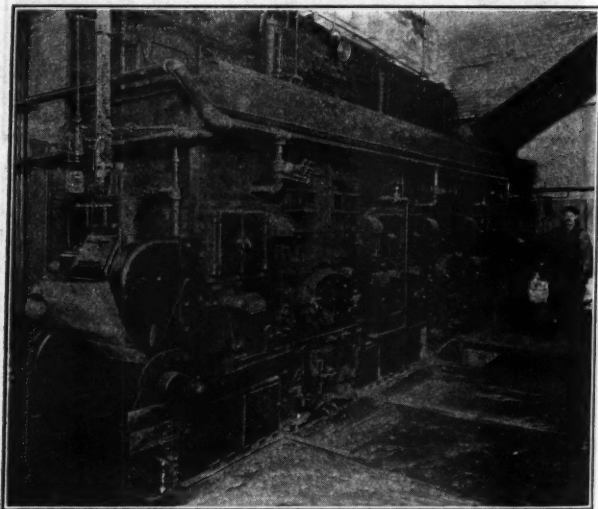
WOMANS REST ROOM

building by means of two electrical pumps. A subway houses steam and water pipes, and here also is located a vacuum cleaner, with 350 pounds pressure. Each of the Dispensary rooms is connected with the cleaner, so that a hose may be attached wherever desired.

The Sturdevant, indirect method of heating is used. A fan forces the heat from steel coils through a curtain of water and thence to all parts of the building. The air is moist after its bath and goes where it is pushed. Inasmuch as each room has a separate thermostat, it can be regulated to suit the occupants. In summer, proper ventilation is assured by the Sirocco, American Blower System. All air is washed before it is pumped through the building *de de*

Now that we have examined the

Rochester Dental Dispensary and its work in the Dispensary building itself, let us take note of its activities in the public and parochial schools of the city, as well as the institutions for the blind and deaf. Graduate oral hygienists are mostly employed for dental work in the schools and institutions of Rochester, squads of from six to eight young women going out in charge of licensed dentists. To train these oral hygienists, a school has been established by Dr. Burkhardt. The course extends over a period of from eight to nine months and includes lectures in anatomy, physiology, history, sanitation, chemistry, bacteriology, hygiene, diatetics, etc., practical demonstration and instruction in the proper use of instruments and to perform the various operations of removing



View of the Boiler Room showing automatic stokers.



Cafeteria Lunch Room.

calcareous deposits, in the cleaning of the teeth and the restoration of the mouth to a healthy condition.

¶ It is not possible to predict the far-reaching effect, importance and value which will result from the employment of dental hygienists, but in the opinion of Director Burkhart their proper employment will be so satisfactory and beneficial there will be a universal demand for their services. Dental hygienists give particular attention to oral hygiene and prophylaxis, and this indeed, forms a most important part of their work.

"The need for properly educated hygienists is very good," said Dr. Burkhart. "While their employment in dental offices is desired by many, the services which they can render in public institutions, and particularly in the schools, will be of far more importance to the public. It is difficult to place an

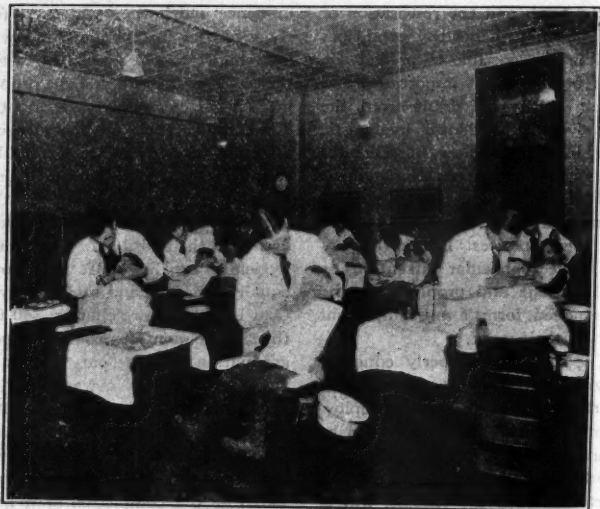
estimate upon their value and the influence which they will exert for good in the instruction they will give children in the care of the teeth, the removal of tartar and the proper mechanical cleaning of the mouth. The employment of medical inspectors and trained nurses in public schools is generally approved, and has been of great value in the preservation of the health of children, and the addition of the dental hygienist to the staff will prove equally beneficial and satisfactory." Oral Hygienists are charged \$50 for their nine-month's course. Upon graduation they are put to work in the schools at \$12 a week, and in the second year are paid \$15. Young women who have had three years' experience in a dental office before entering the school are graduated at the completion of a five-month course. Thirty-eight hygienists were gradu-

ated last year, and twenty-five took up the course this year. Thirteen now are in training. Many of the graduates make immediate connections with outside dentists. Dr. Burkhart is constantly receiving requests for hygienists and such openings are offered to the young women. Many of the graduates prefer to remain with the Dispensary, and enough are so doing that in a short time a full staff will be employed on school work. The class now in course of training is made up of:

Miss Prudence Alling, Miss Madoline Brand, Miss Hildred M. Brown, Miss Bertha Campbell, Miss Marie H. Cherry, Miss Florence Dunkelberg, Miss Mary Fykes, Miss Helen Props, Miss Marie Sawyer, Miss Rosamund Gurthrie, Miss Evelyn Gunnerson and Miss Margaret E. Jackson.

The City of Rochester makes an

appropriation of \$20,000 a year for prophylactic work in the public and parochial schools, as well as institutions. The equipment consists of chairs weighing about 200 pounds, considerably smaller than the regular dental chair. Each chair is simple in construction and is raised and lowered with a mechanical lever. It is furnished with an ordinary cuspidor and may easily be slid along the floor because of shoes on the bottom of the legs. A small truck is sent out with each outfit to facilitate the rapid handling of the chairs. A two-drawer cabinet, the top of which is twenty inches square, is provided with instruments, bottles for medicaments, cleaning powder, strips, wood points, etc. There is a foot engine and electric sterilizer, and where a school is not



Dentists from General Infirmary doing prophylactic work at Public School No. 9.

provided with power, suitable utensils are carried for the proper cleansing of instruments.

Before a squad visits a school, literature, printed in English, Italian and Yiddish, is sent to the principal for distribution, calling the attention of parents and children to the necessity and value of prophylactic treatment. Attached to each circular is a slip which may be signed by the parents and returned to the school in case they do not want to have the teeth of the children cleaned. There is no ordinance or rule which compels youngsters to have their teeth cleaned, if objection is made by parent or guardian.

¶ School clinics are held in the best available space. In many schools the hygienists set up their chairs in the corridor or the most convenient place that can be found. Other institutions set aside a special room for the work. Few, if any school authorities looked far enough ahead, but architects are beginning to appreciate the necessity of properly arranged and lighted rooms for dental hygiene and newer plans are expected to show great improvement in this direction.

The oral hygienists attend to the children by grades, usually commencing with the kindergarten. The number of dentists and young women employed varies with the requirements.

In an article in the *New York State Health News*, Director Burkhart recently said of this Dispensary development:

"During the last school year, 41 public schools, 27 parochial schools and seven orphan asylums and church homes were visited twice. On the first visit, 33,664 children received prophylactic treatment,

and on the second visit 41,860 were handled. On the first visit there were approximately 15 per cent refusals, and on the second visit about 10 per cent. Wherever the work was done, whether in the public or parochial or orphan asylums or homes, it has met with most cordial and hearty reception and approval. The co-operation on the part of the principals and teachers has been splendid, and in but few instances has there seemed to be a lack of co-operation.

¶ "While at first, there were many obstacles to be overcome and some prejudices to be explained away, on the second visit the reception accorded the operators was more cordial, and there were but few instances when they did not receive a hearty welcome. The enthusiasm displayed by principals, teachers and parents, and the co-operation on the part of the children themselves has been most gratifying. While there were many misgivings at the start with reference to the reception that would be accorded the operators, it is with much pleasure that I tell you that we were very happily disappointed.

¶ "After the prophylactic work is finished, a survey is made of the mouth, and also an inspection by the operator in charge of the squad. If there is need for further dental services, extractions, fillings, or anything else that needs attention, a card is sent to the parents stating that the child is in need of dental services and urging them to make an immediate visit to the family dentist, or, if in case they are unable to pay for dental services, to come at once to the Dispensary. The greatly improved condition of the children's teeth, we believe, is in a large measure due to the prophy-



INTERNS ASSIGNED FROM
GENERAL INFIRMARY
TO PROPHYLACTIC
WORK IN
SCHOOLS



ORAL HYGIENISTS AT
WORK AT ROCHESTER
DEAF MUTE INSTITUTE



ORAL HYGIENISTS AT WORK, IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

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"While the prophylactic work is being done, operators are instructed to talk to the children with reference to the importance of cleaning their teeth, the eating of proper food and proper mastication. They also are frequently instructed in the proper care of the tooth brush."

¶ School lecture work is a most important feature fostered by the Dispensary. This is in charge of Mrs. W. A. White, widow of the late Dr. W. A. White of Phelps, N. Y., a former state dental lecturer and oral hygiene authority. Mrs. White gives from five to six lectures a day during the school year. Her talks are illustrated with stereoptican views and are of a most educational nature. A pleasing effect is

that the children remember former talks when visited a second or third time and when questioned, relate in detail what they were told before ••

Since February 1918, Mrs. White has visited all of the schools and orphan asylums and has talked to more than 60,000 children. Referring to her work, Dr. Burkhardt said: "We usually aim to have the lecture given just before the oral hygienists are going to visit a school, as we find it creates enthusiasm for the work that is to follow. The lectures are very popular and have created wide interest in oral hygiene, not only among the children in the schools, but with the adult population as well."

It is not fitting to close this article without special reference to Mr.

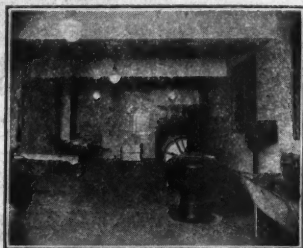


A glimpse of one of the Rochester Dental Dispensary's most interesting activities—Oral Hygiene Lectures in the public schools. Mrs. W. A. White, lecturer, may be seen standing at the right of the stereoptican projector.

George Eastman, who not only founded but endowed the Rochester Dental Dispensary, and who takes great pride in its accomplishments. It is his wish that the institution be used for the sole purpose of devising ways and means to demonstrate the value of preventive dentistry. At no time will this be lost from sight, and while various activities will be carried on, it is the intention of Dr. Burkhart and his staff to work in harmony with the basic and fundamental object always in view. Thirteen public spirited citizens of Rochester, not including Mr. Eastman, make up the Board of Directors, and each has pledged \$1,000 a year for six years to carry on the work. This is in addition to the \$20,000 a year furnished by the City of Rochester. The small charge made to the children is added to the general fund, but is hardly enough to pay the laundry bill. ¶ The cost of building and equipment as completed was over

\$500,000. At the end of a five year period, Mr. Eastman agreed if conducted up to his expectations, to endow the institution with \$750,000. Much to the surprise of the Director and the Board of Directors he has turned over to them \$1,000,000 in Liberty Bonds, not waiting for the five year period. The interest on this amount at four per cent is not sufficient to meet the needs of the institution. It will be necessary for the municipality and its citizens to make up this deficit.

¶ The Rochester Dental Dispensary has begun a great work for the children of Rochester, a work that will spread through the state and the nation. With the Forsyth Infirmary it is blazing the trail. Mr. Eastman and his associates aim to make the institution the foremost of its kind in the world, a beacon light toward which dentists of all nations will look. This ideal seems well on the road to realization.



Laundry

...of the Rochester Dental Dispensary's most interesting
...and hygiene lectures in the public schools. Mrs. W. A. White
...may be seen standing at the right of the stenographer

SUPER ETHICS

"Kultural Influences," "Contributing Conditions," "Mental Attitude," *Ad Nauseam*.

John P. Corley, M. D., D. D. S., Sewanee, Tenn.

Our readers will find the following full of pep and ginger. You may not agree with all that Dr. Corley says, but it is well worth reading ~ ~ ~



WHEN Dr. Guilford crowned his ripe and fruitful life by a public vindication of professional righteousness, in his scathing criti-

cism of the Davis rape of ethical chastity, he pronounced the judgment of the very Deandom of dentistry ~ ~ ~

With his characteristic gentleness of soul he drew the mantle of a beautiful Christian charity over the *motif* of the author of this tragic destruction of the magnificent professional *ensemble* so patiently built by three generations of gentlemen who made American dentistry the pride and wonder of the world.

¶ As Dr. Guilford had pointed out, Dr. Davis had sealed his status as a professional traitor and outlaw, by confessing to an international violation of professional ethics and had placed himself forever beyond the pale of fraternal fellowship by an exhibition of moral astigmatism, and we thought the matter logically closed ~ ~ ~

Imagine, therefore, the consternation when the president of the Preparedness League asks the profession to justify an act of moral turpitude because the character of its author had become crooked through "Kultural Influence" with which he had voluntarily, and for financial reasons, expatriated himself! Dr. Beach begs that we "take into

account contributing conditions," some of which are not known to us, "and form our judgments accordingly!" ~ ~ ~

Since the author of this astounding request is the official head of a large and influential association, such a statement, published over his signature stating his official position, seems to require public repudiation. Let us, therefore, address ourselves to the nauseous task of examining these "contributing conditions."

In order to accurately assess his "mental attitude" let us lay his "environment" on the dissecting table and study these "contributing conditions," and together let us make diligent search for the "ones we do not know." That our investigation may be rightly hypothecated let us take the "environment" which Dr. Davis gives us in his book ~ ~ ~

While lack of space makes verbatim quotation of the text impracticable I shall take no liberties with interpretation. If any one desires to verify statements he can do so by tickling the palm of Harper & Brothers with a two-dollar bill.

The subject matter is presented with such utter disregard to chronological or other orthodox order, the many repetitions and contradictions are not obvious and so make a review annoyingly tedious. The catch phrase printed on the outer cover of the book, "*America Must be*

Punished," was uttered with vociferous emphasis in Dr. Davis's office many months before Mr. Gerard closed his Embassy.

SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

"—The underlying spirit of the Teutonic race is bellicosity." "The Germans are the most quarrelsome people in the world," over ten millions of them having taken part in law suits in 1913. "The average German is the most selfish individual in the world." "Every one looked out for himself first and pushed aside every one who stood in his way."

The "stingiest" people in the world. As an example of the "petty meanness" of his own social circle, his wife's holiday hostess lied to a furrier to get a commission on some furs which Dr. Davis bought for his wife. The most cast-ridden and lacking in comradeship and the military spirit in civil life creates an air of "oppression." While these were his "first impressions" he remained to witness their growth for fourteen years! Yet not till the sinking of the *Lusitania* did "living and practising in Germany lose much of their charm."

ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

An "accumulation of debts" together with failing health had caused his predecessor to commit suicide. The nobility (who made up a large share of Dr. Davis's clientele) together with the entire royal family were notoriously stingy. He was made to pay an armament tax. Before he left Germany living conditions were rapidly becoming unbearable. His child, who had returned from America with her

mother in 1916, was suffering from lack of nourishment. All foods, most of which were substitutes, were rationed in limited quantity. Most non-substitute foods were obtainable only through smuggler speculators who were subject to fines and imprisonment.

Black crow, seventy-five cents; small goose, twenty-five dollars; butter (from speculator) five to eight dollars per pound; dried peas (from speculator) seventy-five cents per pound. Milk only for small children. Sugar and flour (from smugglers) one dollar per pound. Substitute for soft soap (said to have been made from human corpses) four dollars per pound.

Clothing obtainable only after endless government red tape and then one was compelled to give up clothing one had, before being allowed to purchase more. Cloth suits (worth twenty-five dollars) three hundred dollars. Art taffeta (only thing available for women's attire) ten dollars per yard. Underwear and lingerie made of paper and unwashable. Annual allowance two collars; two shirts; two pair of socks etc. Dental goods rationed weekly. Table cloths for restaurants and sheets for hotels not allowed.

Non-producing class dying in such enormous numbers and under such suspicious circumstances as to suggest official infection to save bread. Ominous resentment against alien dentists who were taking advantage of absence of native dentists who were serving at the front. Population so emaciated that their collars buttoned on their chests and their clothing hung in bags. No public conveyances, and private motors not allowed. Future

of the race seriously threatened through starvation of the children.

POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

The German people were thoroughly imbued with the principle of "divine right" and idolized their Emperor. Every individual believed that "might makes right." Practically every civilian official was a soldier and never allowed one to forget the fact. The police were the most arrogant in the world. The authorities were totally indifferent to public opinion.

Before America entered the war the all but universal sentiment was that every American who ventured within range of a German gun on land or sea should be shot. The public press, which was absolutely controlled by the government and which in peace times, was, perhaps, the most reliable in the world, is gospel to the people.

Before Dr. Davis left Berlin the police and a large part of the population were co-operating with thieves. He bought two hundred pounds of flour and two hundred pounds of sugar for four hundred dollars. The men who (disguised as soldiers) smuggled it into his house declared that it had been stolen from a hospital! Soldiers at home on furlough were holding up and robbing people on the streets of Berlin. Officers were stealing from the hospitals and sending home to their starving families.

Dr. Davis knew for a long time that the German cause was hopeless, and that economic and political chaos would supervene. He decided in the *Spring of 1915* to give up his home in Germany but deferred for a year in order to get *New York* license and another year to *dispose*

of his practice. Yet he tells us that his most "insistent" reason was a patriotic desire to help his country in a crisis. If he even asked for an armistice during these years while he was settling up his affairs, he forgets to mention it!

Since the Kaiser constitutes a part of the "environment" let us examine him as Dr. Davis has pictured him; the most versatile man in the world; illustrious monarch of an Empire whose Universities and scientific laboratories were the shrine and mecca of the civilized world, and who accepts without question, on the fiat of his friend, an alien debutant as his dental custodian. The welcome to his kingdom was spontaneous and effusive and when the mouth mirror rattled against his teeth and the pallid brow of this stranger indicated lack of food the haughty Emperor showed only *solicitude*! When this new dentist, following the custom of his predecessor failed to render a bill for professional services, the court-physician was sent to request that one be rendered. Upon its receipt the Kaiser, though notoriously stingy, promptly paid it in *double amount*!

The Kaiser always waved to him in passing his house; never failed to send New Year's cards; frequently sent autographed picture cards of himself (the most treasured gift in his power); gave him a picture of Frederick the Great; also one of himself and the Kaiserine commemorating their silver wedding. ¶ He complimented the new up-holstery; shook hands with the new office girl; admired Mrs. Davis's picture; frequently inquired after his practise; seemed always to take an interest in his welfare; always

sent his private car and royal bugler for Dr. Davis when it was necessary for him to call; served breakfast and continued to suffer torture from an inflamed pulp which had kept him awake all night, until the Doctor had finished eating; apologized for spoiling the Doctor's Sunday afternoon; commissioned him to kick the shins of his royal cousin, the King of England; patted him on the shoulder (right shoulder) and apologized for having called Mr. Wilson a scoundrel.

The royal visits averaged about nine to the year; he always came early that he might disarrange the day for the Doctor as little as possible; never had an anesthetic either local or general; never flinched; was the best patient the Doctor ever had; spent from ten minutes to an hour and a half in conversation at the end of each visit; discussed all subjects without reserve; asked for new jokes; laughed hilariously, was not profane but occasionally got angry; smoked an occasional cigarette but did not seem to greatly enjoy it; never smoked in office; touched no alcohol and ate most abstemiously. He went frequently to church and occasionally preached; his private life was blameless but he did not have *complete dominion* over the Kaiserine; always spoke English to Doctor Davis even at Great Army Headquarters, something which no one else did; gave him a pass to Headquarters for entire year of 1917, and permitted him to leave the Empire after knowing that he had *wilfully deceived* him in reference to his passports. He tells us that the Kaiser had the most implicit trust in every one with whom he came in intimate contact

and was less suspicious than any man he ever saw. He says that the Emperor's personality is hypnotic and when he told him that he was not to blame for the war he had to believe it, but that after he had shaken his hand in farewell and had contemplated the horrors of the war he realized that the Kaiser was the world's most finished actor!

In casting up his "mental attitude" let us make a little study of Dr. Davis himself. We will get the personal atmosphere from his own stories;—Early in the war he was on the point of *beating up* a Prussian officer who had commandeered his taxi when the situation was saved by his "wife's *quick plea* of illness." This single incident and the way it is told is a whole autobiography and does not require a trained psychologist to read it.

Instead of standing in line for his weekly ration of gold he sent the girl at the gold counter a weekly bribe of chocolate at eight dollars per pound and she set aside his allowance, sending it to him by registered mail, but the mails were so frequently robbed that he was lucky to get twenty-five per cent of that which was mailed!

"On the 1st of August, 1917, three robbers entered my house. They stole about five hundred dollar's worth of gold, platinum, and silver; besides a typewriter, some celluloid brushes and other articles of less value. * * * I applied to the local police station * * * and was given the celluloid toilet articles and other things of nominal value, but the gold, platinum and silver were retained by the police and *I was made to sign a paper* to the effect that I was satisfied with the work they had done in apprehending the

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burglars and with the property that had been returned to me!" Since most of my readers will know that all precious metals were commandeered at the beginning of the war and that a fine and imprisonment was attached as a penalty for hoarding it, I submit the foregoing item, with the one just above, without comment.

"It is true that, as a matter of professional discretion, I made it a rule never to relate to any one what I had heard from the Kaiser, because I realized that if it ever got back to him that I was repeating what he had told me, our friendship would not last very long. Undoubtedly my policy in that respect was responsible for the wide range of subjects which the Kaiser from time to time felt free to discuss with me." I submit without comment.

Let us examine one other manifestation of his "mental attitude" and we shall have done. He tells us that the interview in the Fall of 1916 in which the Kaiser said "America must be punished" influenced him perhaps more than any other single factor to hasten the settlement of his European affairs and return home, but that he commenced active preparations for the disposition of his practise upon receipt of his license to practice in New York, which was also in the Fall of 1916.

After considerable negotiation with Dr. Haselden, an American dentist in Hamburg, he succeeded in arranging for Dr. Haselden to "take over his practise, twelve years lease, and other responsibilities."

Dr. Davis does not tell us, but at least one of these items must have been regarded as an asset, since the matter had kept him for twelve

months in fellowship with a people who had become obnoxious and in a situation fraught with almost unbelievable hardships and even physical dangers to himself and family; not to mention the grave danger to *Democracy, Humanity* and the *Allied cause* through the information which he was withholding in this crisis!

Presumably it was the "practise" which was held as the asset since it is not probable that it was the lease when chaos and starvation were facing the nation. Neither is it probable that it was the "other responsibilities." They could scarcely have been social so they must have been financial, and when we remember the H. C. L. of a professional man with a family, with goose at twenty-five dollars per, it takes little imagination to picture these "other responsibilities" as quite a substantial consideration in this "arrangement."

So long as we are presuming we may as well assume that Dr. Haselden paid something for the invoice and that the Kaiser, the royal family and the nobility (to whom Dr. Davis gives the American public such an intimate personal introduction) were a substantial element in the transferred clientele. It is true that he tells us that they were notoriously stingy but as for that he says that *all Germans* are stingy.

When a man sells or transfers a professional practise the commodity sold or transferred is known, in commercial parlance, as *good will*. I submit, for the consideration of a "broadminded profession," that a man who sells his good will to a fellow and then sells to the public that which *destroys* this good will is as surely a thief as the man who

sells a material object, then steals and sells it again. Not only that; he assassinates the senior member of the Three Graces; Faith, the foundation upon which rests the corner stone of civilization; Faith, without which love and charity sicken and die; Faith, without which human fellowship is dead.

It will be interesting to hear what Dr. Haselden has to say. Perhaps a statement from him may prove to be the "future developments" which may demand of Dr. Beach a "change of sentiment," but it will not be a change of soul, for a man

who would maliciously "jab" a patient with an excavator has not and *never has had a soul.*

It is probable that every article which appears in a dental publication on this subject will result in the sale of a thousand copies of Dr. Davis's book. Let us hope that all the journals in the country may feature it and that the royalties from the book and the *patent tooth crown* will make the commercial sphere so attractive that dentistry may be rid of her most widely advertised professional prostitute.

ARMOUR AND COMPANY DENTAL DISPENSARY

From our Chicago Correspondent

This article chronicles another phase of the industrial dental dispensaries in that prophylactic work alone is performed. The patient is allowed to select his own dentist, whom he may pay or the Company pays and subtracts the same in small weekly installments, or, if too poor the Company pays the bill.

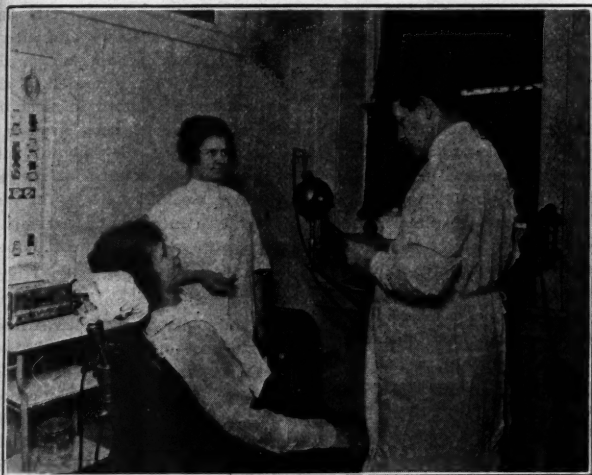


HE industrial dental dispensary fast is becoming recognized by big business as a valuable and integral part of welfare work. Scores of corporations, striving for increased production in as many different phases of industry, already have installed clinics and the list grows rapidly.

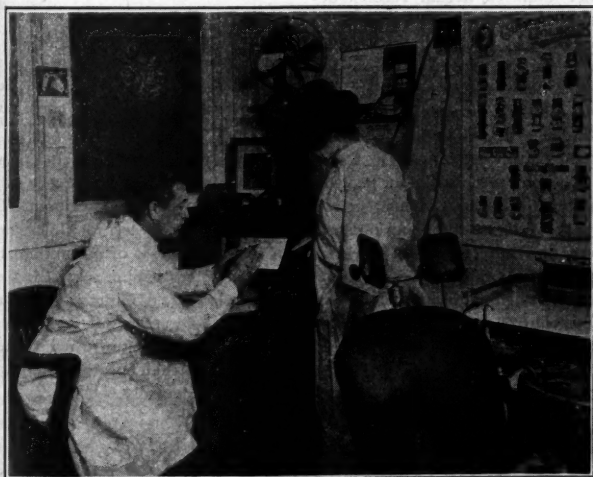
Unfortunately, or perhaps fortunately, because in this way a multitude of ideas is being formulated for the guidance of others, each factory management has a different method of applying dentistry to business. The study of industrial dispensaries for that reason is of never failing interest.

In Chicago, as every schoolboy knows, is the great packing plant of Armour and Company. The present head of this stupendous branch of big business is J. Ogden Armour, worthy son of a successful father. Philip D. Armour established the business and made a fortune. J. Ogden Armour has taken the industry and embellished it. Today Armour & Company is treble the size it was when Philip Armour relinquished the helm.

When Philip Armour died nearly 20 years ago he left J. Ogden Armour a yearly business of approximately \$1,000,000 a year. Today the total reaches close to \$1,000,000,000 annually and another five years may see the figure doubled. Philip Armour was a stern father. He real-



One of the girl workers about to be examined.



Dr. Cardwell and his assistant, Miss Katchinski, who is getting instructions on one patient's record, all of which are kept on file.

ized his son must be steeped in business before taking control and the present head of the Company was given no rest. He was made to work in every one of the multitudinous departments of Armour & Company, graduating at last to the executive offices. Thus, he saw the raw side of life and rubbed shoulders with workers he later was to direct. It was natural he should take a keen interest in the welfare of his employees, and it was a foregone conclusion that sooner or later he should see the need of a dental dispensary.

¶ The Armour clinic is not a dispensary in the strict sense of the word, as little more than prophylactic work is done there. Dr. Louis Cardwell, a graduate of the Chicago School of Dental Surgery, and a man of 25 years' practical experience is in charge. He devotes his time to the charting and censorship of teeth, rather than to actual reconstruction. Records show that 500 patients visit him each month, and when dental work is necessary an outside practitioner is recommended.

"Our aim is to educate our workers to the necessity of taking good care of their teeth," explained Dr. Cardwell. "Clean teeth make for healthy employees. Diseased mouth conditions bring about ailing workers and production suffers. Dental work, as applied by Armour & Company, is strictly a business proposition.

"This clinic is different from that of any other company or business in the country in that we do not enter into competition with the dental

profession. We clean teeth and extract, when necessary, and, after a thorough examination, inform the patient just what is needed. If the worker can not afford to meet the fees of outside dentists, Armour & Company, pays the bill and subtracts a small amount from the pay envelope, week by week. If the Welfare Department finds that family conditions make payment impossible, the Company invariably foots the bill."

The simplicity of J. Ogden Armour and in fact of the whole Armour plant is reflected in the dental dispensary. A small, unpretentious room is set aside for the dentist. The equipment is up to date and includes the usual X-ray outfit, electric engine, hydraulic chair, sterilizer, cabinets and instruments. An indirect lighting system is used.

Dental inspection is a matter of routine, and men and women of every department are required to have their teeth examined at set times. Complete records are kept and individual cases are constantly on file.

Armour & Company rarely go outside for executives and every office boy is an embryo president. The health of employees, for this reason, if for no other, is of paramount importance. In looking after the teeth of employees, Armour & Company, simply is carrying out its policy of leaving no stone unturned to keep workers at their best, both physically and mentally.



ment and the business of the company is to keep the workers healthy and happy.

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CARRYING YOUR MESSAGE TO YOUR GARCIA

J. Wright Beach, D. D. S., Buffalo, New York



INTO every man's life there comes a Garcia and in these times of suffrage we may include the women, also. Let me elucidate.

Garcia was a Cuban General and a guy by the name of Rowan was sent post haste by President McKinley to find the aforesaid Cuban General and 'tis said that the sprightly Mr. Rowan tripped lightly thru the trackless wilds of the Cuban jungle and slipped *A Message to Garcia*. You see Garcia was the objective.

About these simple facts there has been deftly woven a clear and powerful tale by the master-mind of one of America's most noted and lamented men. Who but the martyred Elbert Hubbard could weave a story of such telling directness, such profound import and carry it, not to Garcia, but to the whole civilized world and make it apply to the office boy and the president alike?

The story was penned after the evening meal on the birthday of the Father of our Country—a most fitting time—midst the homely freedom and the inspiring atmosphere of Roycroft environment. A well-spent evening, I would say, for thousands of men of many rations and of many tongues have since carried their message to their Garcias and have reaped abundant reward therefrom. May these ragged lines impress this thought upon those who read, that the

message of the master-mind may continue to bear rich fruit. Read the story for yourself and get the true spirit.

Have you carried *YOUR* message to *YOUR* Garcia? You know the real Garcia knocks but once at your door. Can you distinguish his knock from that of Jones or Brown or Smith? Be sure the message is ready to pass out the moment the door begins to swing on its hinges, for if you don't, the sprightly Rowan fellow may get the drop on you.

This Garcia business began a long time ago. The Big Book tells of one Adam who had been given a beautiful war garden, rent free, having all the modern conveniences and efficient corps of assistants representing every species of the animal kingdom, not forgetting a fair maiden. Adam was having the time of his young life, when he was given a message to carry to his Garcia, but the crafty little serpent stopped him on the way and handed him some glib language anent the virtues of the apple. Being the only real sport in the garden, Adam did not long hesitate to take the great chance, so he joyously plunged his incisors deep into the forbidden fruit and, presto, in the twinkling of an eye, there arose a violent rear-guard barrage that forced him, fig leaf and all, out into the cruel and unfeeling world forever. And so Adam lost out on the Garcia stuff because he foolishly tarried to listen to honeyed talk seasoned with invisible venom-sauce that trans-

formed the succulent apple into bitterest gall.

Not so with our more recent friends, G. Washington and A. Lincoln. THEIR Garcia was firmly fixed on a solid foundation and they delivered the message that founded the greatest nation of the earth and liberated the downtrodden and oppressed. It looks like a long trek from Adam's war garden to the Capitol of U. S. A., especially as we are told a boat ride intervened in which only selected pairs were given first class tickets, therefore the difficulties of bridging the intervening space was fraught with many hazards. Nevertheless, the Garcia idea has survived and has been forcefully interjected into your life and mine.

How many "Rowans" do you suppose are at this moment carrying the message to Garcia for our own President? How many of our noble countrymen have stepped to the fore and said, "I will carry your message to Garcia!" How many have had that message sealed within their breasts for the past two years and have fought against well-nigh unsurmountable odds to carry it to the benighted subjects of perfidious monarchs, that they might know that their deliverance was at hand. And how many of our matchless boys have clung to that message through hell after hell until the murderer's blast has laid them low

and the message has fallen from their nerveless grasp only to be caught up and carried onward and still onward by their valiant brothers. Torn, maimed and suffering, hundreds of thousands of bleeding hearts have fought for the emancipation of the civilized world and the battle cannot be won unless through sacrifice and travail you succeed in "Carrying YOUR Message to YOUR Garcia."

Is the dental profession aware that the above lines apply directly to it at this very moment? Not yesterday, to-morrow nor today—but NOW!! We have a Garcia, we have a message, but where are the Rowans? Let us not lapse into our former state of indifference and self-satisfaction just because the war is over and we have done a portion of our duty! Rather, let us recognize the call of humanity and use the wonderful means placed in our hands as a sacred trust and go forward to the discharge of our FULL duty *so so*

To any of the esteemed readers of ORAL HYGIENE who wish further information, I will gladly answer all inquiries as to the location and identity of Garcia and will be most happy to enlist them in the Rowan army. It is a world vision and bears the stamp, "MADE IN AMERICA."



WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH DENTISTRY?

H. M. Deaver, D. D. S., Newkirk, Oklahoma

The author answers his own question, also that of Mr. Hynson of Philadelphia. Unfortunately there are truths in both articles, but read for yourself and draw your own conclusions.



IN answer to Mr. Geo. B. Hynson's query "What is the matter with dentistry?" I wish to say that there is nothing the matter with dentistry. The matter is with the public of whom Geo. B. Hynson is one, and the chief matter with the public is that they know absolutely nothing about any phase of dentistry, and when they talk or write anything about dentistry, they talk or write through their hats as Geo. B. has done in March ORAL HYGIENE.

For instance the public, including George, does n't know and will never be able to learn, unless dentists will be honest enough to tell them, that it is *time* that dentists charge for, and that the cost of the material used in practising dentistry is the smallest part of the expense; and that it takes just as much *time* to devitalize nerves, fill root canals, prepare cavities in teeth and fill them, treat abscesses and extract teeth for poor people as it does for millionaires, provided of course that it is properly and carefully done, and conscientious, honest, golden rule, or in other words "ethical" dentists believe that the right way is the only way.

I here make the truthful statement, which no one who is honest will attempt to refute, that in average cases the difference in cost of the

filling material is hardly worth consideration, whether it be gold, amalgam, synthetic porcelain, or ordinary dental cement. But the thing that makes a dentist's work worth the money is the difference in time required to properly insert these different materials in any given cavity. Also the *time* absolutely required to properly prepare cavities for the reception and retention of the filling material, whatever it may be.

Certainly dentists could fill teeth for less money in the individual case, fill more teeth thus taking care of a greater number of patients, could put on more crowns, extract more teeth, and make more plates if they would slight this work, and wade through any way to get through without regard to the future comfort or well-being of their patients; and at the end of the day they would have more money in their pockets than they now have, because they would have economized on that highest priced thing the dentist uses, which is *time*.

The sole object of the painless dentist is to save *time*. The painless dentist crowns thousands of teeth in twenty minutes for \$5.00 that the average reputable dentist would be glad to spend an hour on for \$2.50. Which makes the most money per hour? The price of materials is the same for either class of dentist. And the nature of the finished work enables them to charge twice the

price a reputable dentist would ask for doing good work.

What boneheads the people are, including George, if they think that the painless dentist has for one second any altruistic element in his makeup.

George wonders why we have no "family dentists," as we have "family doctors." We have, and these dentists are the hardest working, lowest paid class of laborers in the world today. I have worked many an hour for less than fifty cents, and I don't believe I will average over seventy-five cents per hour, and that is why I, or any other average dentist, can not work cheaper and be honest with his patients. Dishonest I say, because the public is educated to believe that all dental work lasts forever, whereas it is only that work which is correctly done that gives good and indefinite service.

¶ The ethical dentist is against the advertising dentist because he is a crook and a grafter. He does the worst and cheapest work for the highest price, figured on the time basis while he leads the people to think they are getting the best work at a lower price.

The average, honest, reputable dentist does work every day that would cause heart failure to any advertising "expert" if he had to do the same work in the same way.

¶ There are very few men today who are really practising dentistry; most of them are just filling teeth. Reason, the public cannot, or rather will not pay the fees, nor take the time, nor endure the slightest inconvenience, which the correct practise of dentistry demands.

If the average young dentist knew as much about dentistry before going to college, as he does after ten years practise, in twenty years there would not be a practising dentist in the United States. He can not practise dentistry as it ought to be practised, because the public won't let him. He finds men and women every day who, perhaps, like George, know more about dentistry than he does.

They know when the dentist "hits the nerve" and of course he grinds away the tooth so it will break and have to be crowned; they know that false teeth are too big, or too little, too dark or too yellow, rarely too white. In fact they know so much about dentistry that the average dentist has difficulty in keeping them in the chair long enough to enable him to put in a filling that will last, on an average, five years.

¶ I have done considerable work in my town for men home on furlough. Why did they not have it done in the army? Don't get excited about the uplift the army dentist is going to institute. Some of the quackiest of the quacks are in the army.

In a town not far away there is a dentist who advertises that he is an ex-army dentist. He is a disgrace not only to the dental profession but to the American people, who through their gullibility and unjust distrust of the average dentist will allow such a person to work for them.

The matter is n't with dentistry, Mr. Geo. B. Hynson, it's with the people. It's up to the average dentist and the different dental societies to get dentistry out of the rut, by *simply telling the truth to all the people.*

SYSTEMIC EFFECT OF ORAL INFECTIONS

SIDNEY A. TWINCH, M. D., F. A. C. S.

Here is an interesting article, for which we are indebted to the New Jersey Dental Journal. This paper was read before the Research Society of New Jersey and caused considerable, favorable comment.



T gives me much pleasure to be here tonight to discuss with you some of the problems of the Teeth in Relation to Systemic Infect-

ion.

It would, perhaps, be hard to find any branch of medicine in which more advance had been made during the past decade than dentistry, but there is a question as to whether we as the rank and file of both the dental and medical profession realize the full significance of the relationship which the teeth in a septic condition have to systemic infection.

Physicians who are in the habit of treating chronic diseases are beginning to fear systemic infection from the teeth more than from any other source. A Canadian writer has recently said that he believed oral infection is the most important problem before the medical and dental professions today.

Very often the teeth which cause the most systemic trouble are the most innocent looking ones. I have had this fact very forcibly impressed upon my mind lately by the case of a physician whom I am treating. This gentleman, 53 years old, has had the advantage of treatment by some of the most prominent Orthopedists of this country, nevertheless he has been suffering from infectious arthritis (commonly called chronic

rheumatism) for many years, so that many of his joints are very badly deformed and painful, especially his hands and the small joints of his fingers. Before beginning treatment, careful X-rays were made of his teeth. Any teeth which showed any suspicion of pyorrhea or apical abscesses were extracted and all the remaining ones were thoroughly cleaned.

After six months' treatment in a hospital the patient had greatly improved in his general condition and lost the septic appearance, but with all his general improvement, his pain was nearly as acute as ever, so that when we would see him and tell him how much better he was looking he would say, but why don't I lose this pain? We, therefore, finally decided to sacrifice all his teeth and to our surprise from the time the first two or three were extracted he began to improve and by the time all the teeth were out he noticed the greatest improvement in the diminution of pain, so that in a few weeks' time he commenced to walk again for the first time in many months. For several weeks after the extraction of the teeth pus was running from his gums, and at this point I would like to impress upon my hearers the necessity in such cases of seeing them often so as to be able to keep the cavities in the gums thoroughly clean until they are fully healed.

When a patient has to have a num-

ber of teeth removed it is always better not to extract more than two or three at a sitting because if a large number of septic teeth are removed at one time it is possible to make the patient suddenly worse by opening up so many channels for pus absorption.

I know of a medical gentleman who insisted upon having all his teeth out at one sitting. After two dentists had refused to extract all at once on account of the danger of septic absorption he went to a third dentist who did as the patient requested, and extracted all his teeth, which were badly affected with pyorrhea, at one sitting. The result was that he was laid up in bed for two months with a most virulent attack of septic infection.

Dead teeth should always be a cause of suspicion and should be carefully investigated with the X-ray. Radiographs in these cases are indispensable because they show if the roots are properly filled and also if apical abscesses are present. In filling a tooth after you have the root all drilled out and ready for filling, insert a wire down to the bottom and take a picture and then as the wire will show very distinctly, you can see at a glance if the root is open to the bottom. This, of course, will mean an extra visit for the patient and incidentally an extra fee, but patients are willing to pay for good and careful work.

For the past few years much attention has been given to pyorrhea and apical abscesses, and many dentists have tried to cure these chronic, and usually incurable conditions, by treatment. Except in very slight cases of pyorrhea we believe the best and surest way is to extract the teeth.

As mechanical dentistry has developed, so have many systemic infections with which the physician of the last generation did not have to contend. Crowns and bridges sometimes hide a lot of infection and frequently permit the development of a serious pathological condition. We think that as the dental profession use the title of Doctor they should be more than dental mechanicians. For instance, if you have a patient whom you know is complaining of rheumatism just remember that 99 per cent of so-called rheumatism is due to some focal infection. Of course we feel that it is the place of the physician to discover just where this focus is, yet the dentist might at least make sure that the part of the body over which he has special care is not the part which is causing the patient's ill health.

As physicians are frequently sending patients to dentists, why should not dentists, realizing their partial responsibility for the patients' good health, send patients to the physician with the question, is it possible that Mrs. A's trouble comes from her teeth? And then go on and state to the physician what signs of infection the patient has in the mouth which might possibly cause trouble elsewhere. If you are doubtful whether to extract or not it is better to be on the safe side and extract suspicious looking teeth.

The symptoms which should cause the most concern are:

The sweetish offensive breath, local swelling and purplish-red color of gums. The apparent elongation of one or more teeth. Gums which easily bleed, or out of which food or pus can be squeezed. When any of these symptoms are present careful X-ray examination should be made

and in some cases smears for bacteriological investigation.

Although actual proof may not as yet be available, many leaders in the medical profession think that most of the chronic diseases of today have their origin in septic infection of some sort, and it is thought that perhaps the mouth most frequently furnishes the focus from which the infection starts. Among these chronic diseases might be mentioned appendicitis, Bright's disease, gastric ulcer, chronic enteritis, gall stones, so-called chronic rheumatism, gout, antrum and frontal sinus disease, arthritis, osteomyelitis, phlebitis and exophthalmic goitre.

This brings us to the point of the up-to-date dentist owning and using his own X-ray machine. The dentist who makes a careful oral examination and a provisional diagnosis and then X-rays the individual teeth which look suspicious, can see if his radiograph confirms or throws doubt on his oral diagnosis. The oral examination should go hand in hand with his radiographic work. Upon first getting an X-ray outfit of your own you may not be very proficient in your ability to correctly interpret radiographic films, but as you cannot learn any younger the best thing to do is to start in and learn by getting the aid of one of your dental confreres who has had experience, and this is just what a society like this is for, to help one another in their difficult problems.

¶ If you rely on an outside radiographer you will not see nearly as many films, and so often you only need the picture of one or two teeth whereas the professional radiographer wants to take the whole mouth, so he crowds four or five teeth on one film and the conse-

quence is the outside ones may be out of focus and so indistinct that it is impossible to make a satisfactory diagnosis. Whereas if you have your own machine and one film for one reason or another is not entirely satisfactory it is a simple matter to take another picture, perhaps from a slightly different angle, which frequently aids in clearing up a difficult point. The expense of the outfit ought not to be considered because you will get good interest on your money several times during the year. Your work will be far more satisfactory to both yourself and your patients and the renewed scientific interest you will take in your practice will add zest to your work and make you feel ten years younger.

From our experience it seems that pyorrhea and apical abscesses are the forms of infection which are more liable to give systemic trouble than decayed teeth with open cavities. This probably is due to the fact that in the case of open cavities there is an outlet allowing good drainage for the discharge of pus, whereas the apical abscesses and unfilled roots are in closed cavities filled with gases and pus.

Dead teeth should be a cause of constant suspicion and should be carefully investigated with the X-ray, which in these cases is indispensable to ascertain if all the roots are properly filled.

The teeth of children I have had a good deal of trouble in getting properly filled. So many mothers report that they were told not to worry about the first teeth and that they would fall out in time. Such is very poor advice, because in the meantime these decayed teeth are

forming excellent incubators where the germs of disease thrive and multiply and are liable to cause all sorts of trouble in children. For my patients I insist that all cavities in children's first teeth be properly filled with soft filling and all roots extracted.

The author has seen a number of cases of recurrent fever in young children who have been treated

either for malaria or tuberculosis and who were promptly cured by either removing various deciduous teeth or filling serviceable ones. The argument used by the average dentist that fillings fall out is surely fallacious because a visit to the dentist is not nearly so discomforting as four or five days severe illness which is followed by debility for two weeks more.

CORRESPONDENCE

Editor Oral Hygiene:

I want to relate a rather unusual experience in my practise:

A patient presented the other day for examination of the upper right cuspid, which he said had been giving him some little trouble for several days past, complained of severe soreness and quite an amount of pain. When he took the chair I noticed he had a bad case of hiccoughs, and he told me that he had had them for the past three days and was unable to stop them and had been to a local physician, who had done all that he knew to affect a cure but without avail, and that he was becoming alarmed at his condition as he was getting quite weak from the continued hiccough. Examination of the tooth confirmed my suspicion of a developing abscess, and as the tooth was badly affected with Pyorrhea with extensive recession of the gum, and as the tooth had previously been treated and the root filled, I advised extraction, which I did. On examination of the

tooth after its removal, a large sac enveloping the end of the root was found attached to the distal side of the root. This sac was as large as a big pea with a large depression in the under side where it had covered the apex, but could not establish the fact that it contained pus, yet it had that appearance.

After the hemorrhage had stopped, the patient remarked: "Doctor, I believe you have cured my hiccoughs as I have not had one since that tooth is out," which later proved to be true, as the following day he informed me that he had not been troubled after he left my office.

What connection, if any, can you establish between that developing abscess and the spasmodic contraction of the diaphragm? There must certainly have been some connection, and if not, why the cure as soon as the offending tooth was removed?

Fraternally yours,

M. W. Hooker, D.D.S.

Pearl City, I.

EDITORIAL

WM. W. BELCHER, D. D. S., *Editor*

186 ALEXANDER ST., ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Oral Hygiene does not publish Society Announcements, Personals or Book Reviews. This policy is made necessary by the limited size and wide circulation of the magazine.

READY AND WAITING



WHEN, nearly four years ago, Mr. George Eastman put into effect the plans of the Rochester Dental Dispensary he set apart a room to be devoted to the solution of problems having a bearing on the practice of dentistry, more especially that phase of dentistry concerned with the treatment of diseases of the teeth and contiguous parts as they present in children under sixteen years of age. This room is spacious, north lighted, perfectly ventilated and in close proximity to the great infirmary from which material for experiment and study may be drawn in quantity for ten months of the year. Its equipment is practically complete and of the best, the gift of Mrs. R. H. Hofheinz as a memorial to one of the greatly beloved and exceptionally gifted members of the dental profession. And as a manifest of appreciation and approval of this generous act the Dispensary's official staff has named the room the "Rudolph H. Hofheinz Research Laboratory" and thus reads the legend on the door.

¶ And now in the second year of the Dispensary's magnificent work, the laboratory still awaits the coming of the man who knows what research means, who has had the training necessary as a preliminary to such work, who is inventive and ingenious and whose mind is of the type that we usually characterize as judicial. The laboratory with its equipment is here, the infirmary as a source of supply of living and other material is close at hand, the chemicals and specific instruments and appliances are to be had on call. But the man! Where is he? Given the man, what about his keep? No matter how scientific he may be, no matter how much disposed to find things out, he must eat, drink, cover his nakedness, have shelter, and somebody must provide the means to that end. And who better than the National Dental Association? This

body is committed to research work; it has such work under way at the present time; presumably it is getting results commensurate with the outlay; but the laboratory in question presents to the Association an opportunity, at once rare and unique, to greatly augment its output of original work and at the minimum of cost. There is no rent to pay, no interest on investment in the plant, no outlay for material, for instruments, for appliances. This is a matter that the management of the Association might well consider and to its great advantage. Without a doubt the man is to be had. Also without a doubt the whole matter hinges upon the question of compensation. Who will pay his keep?

J. Edw. Line

PLATINUM



HE retail price of platinum is, at this writing, \$130 per ounce, nearly six times the value of pure gold. This is due in large part to a scarcity, increased use, and exhaustion of the Russian fields, where previous to the war 90 per cent of the world's output was produced.

The only other source known in the world today, where platinum is produced in payable quantities is in the Republic of Colombia, S. A. Owing to its increased use in warfare, Colombia has increased its output from 12,000 ounces in 1914 to over four times this amount in 1917, worth in round numbers \$5,000,000. It was one of the metals essential to the winning of the war, and this country, in company with England had commandeered the supply.

Platinum is used in the modern hydroplane, aeroplane, fuses, magnetos, telegraph and telephone instruments, etc. All are essential, and without it these modern instruments of death would be impossible. It is also used in the chemical manufacture of sulphuric acid. Many "stills" are today, at the present price, worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Platinum is much used in the making of jewelry. There is a difference of opinion whether or no it makes the diamond appear brighter and larger. It is safe to say that the use of platinum in jewelry is only a "fad," and will soon become a tale of yesterday.

When first discovered in the Republic of Colombia in 1737, it had no market value, but was a perquisite of the monarchs of Spain, to whom Colombia belonged. In those days it was used for making cups and other utensils, also in place of bronze for statues and busts, sometimes being alloyed with copper. Its usefulness as a metal may be dated in the last hundred

years. It was formerly much used in dentistry; no set of teeth could be made without its pins of platinum. Platinum plates, in continuous gum work, were in common use, but on account of its high price we have learned to do without it, and now its use is confined to a few manufacturers who use it in a small degree alloyed with other metals in the manufacture of artificial teeth.

Colombia's field is confined to the Choco district, some twenty thousand square miles in extent. In almost any stream the traces of platinum may be found. Occasionally a nugget is discovered, the largest up-to-date weighing $17\frac{1}{2}$ ounces. On account of its weight, platinum being the heaviest of all metals, even the largest nugget is not of great size.

In conjunction with Colombian platinum other rare metals are found and extracted in the process of refining, such as iridium, palladium, osmium, rhodium, and ruthenium, all of which have special attributes, and are correspondingly costly, closely approaching platinum in value. Alloyed with iridium, platinum is the hardest of all metals. It will not tarnish or oxidize, and is exceedingly ductile; its melting point, electric resistance, and chemical refractory qualities are high. It possesses the lowest coefficient of expansion of any metal; is said to have a greater specific gravity than any known substance; is impervious to corrosive action of oxygen or any other gas; and, except in *aqua regia*, it is insoluble in acids. With the release of war supplies, platinum has gone down in price and it is safe to say that it will so continue, until a more stable figure is reached. As late as fifty years ago it sold for \$6 an ounce. Ten years ago it was selling for twice the value of pure gold. This was then considered as passing; safe to say if it ever reaches this price it will again take its place in dentistry, much to our benefit.

The platinum industry in Colombia is almost entirely in the hands of native miners—white, brown, and black—employing the most primitive methods, and at the present price, working two days and resting five. They do not wander about desert islands, with weather-beaten, badly drawn maps on yellow parchment in one hand, a huge crowbar in the other, and a musket slung across their backs, after the manner of the story books. Provided with a pick and shovel, a few buckets, and some shallow pans, these "fossickers" have only to fill their pans with dirt and gravel from some likely spot, wash the contents at the nearest stream with a circular motion, and they are seldom disappointed at the result. They, indeed, may be described as the modern treasure seekers.

SO SAY WE ALL OF US



THE following editorial from the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, is very much to the point. We have 40,000 dentists in the United States which would make an additional tax under the new law of \$80,000 in all. In some states, as New York, we also have a local fee to pay to conform to the state laws which must be added to the total. These laws intended for the protection of the public should not be saddled on the shoulders of the professional men who are not benefited. The editorial reads as follows:

INCREASED HARRISON LAW TAX UNJUST TO PHYSICIANS

While the Harrison law for the control of narcotic drugs was passed ostensibly for the purpose of raising revenue, it is in reality a public health measure. The revenue feature is only a legal subterfuge, as it was only by imposing a tax that Congress could exercise any jurisdiction on the question. The tax, therefore, being merely a pretext, should be a minimum and purely nominal one. Originally, the law required physicians who desired to prescribe the drugs covered by the act to pay an annual registration fee of one dollar. There are approximately 150,000 physicians in the United States. The law, therefore, imposed a tax of \$150,000 on the medical profession for the protection of the public. This tax physicians cheerfully paid, accepting this small burden for the sake of the public benefits to be derived from the measure. However, at the last session, Congress, in the revenue law, increased the fees for registration under the Harrison law. The license fee for physicians was increased to three dollars. This means that physicians in the United States will be required during the next year to contribute nearly half a million dollars, purely for the public good and not in any sense for the benefit of the profession. The Harrison law is of no special benefit to physicians. The *Journal of the American Medical Association* and the American medical profession enthusiastically supported the Harrison bill when it was before Congress. The great majority of the profession have co-operated to the extent of their ability to promote the enforcement of the law. The nominal tax of one dollar was accepted by physicians as necessary to validate the measure. But there is not the slightest excuse, either legal or social, for increasing this fee to three dollars. If the expenses of administering the law are greater than the revenue derived from it, sufficient appropriation should be made out of the public money derived from general taxation. The law is for the benefit of the public, and the public should pay for it. It is, of course, too late to secure any change in the situation for the present year, but the law should be amended at the first opportunity by restoring the nominal tax of one dollar. If our state and county societies will bring this situation to the attention of their congressmen and will demand the amendment of the present law, speedy correction of the injustice done the profession will be possible.

THE NEW ORDER OF PROGRESS



WITH this number *Oral Hygiene* enters upon a new period. Sixteen pages have been added—eight of which are devoted to reading matter entailing an additional postage bill of \$450 per issue, as *Oral Hygiene* goes under Third-Class mail rates. It is hoped this arrangement is not passing but will be permanent. Our advertisers are very insistent for additional space and, of course, we must have extra reading pages to go with this demand.

Since the Armistice was signed business has been at a standstill but it is beginning to pick up and *Oral Hygiene* feels its influence. It is safe to say that in the future this magazine will have not a small part in the Reconstruction Period.

¶ Here's hoping that the advertisers will be so insistent for space that we will soon have to add another cent to the postage

¶ In the colors and shades of porcelain teeth something certainly has gone wrong. The yellows have become which its name it is mud; the blues impossible greens. The bone-like yellows and faintly tipped blues of yesterday are a memory, their successors suggesting a nightmare. Why this change? The first reason that presents itself is that the manufacturers may be drawing their materials from new sources, or other grades or qualities of materials from the same sources. Possibly, too, the formulae have been changed; if so, then assuredly not for the better. The second reason that obtrudes is, assuming the materials and formulae as of old, that the teeth materials, especially the "bodies," absorb, drink in, the superficial but chemically changed layers of the nickle, nickle-silver, or nickle-other metal of the pins. The surface of the pin-metal does undergo a radical change between the moulding of the teeth and their withdrawal from the furnace. The bright metallic surface of the pins in the mould become dulled, even blackened, in the process known as "burning." The grinding of a tooth of today in such a manner that it exposes the pins *in situ* reveals two changes in the interior, one in the pin itself, the other in the "tissue" of the tooth. What these changes are and what they mean must be known to and may be told some day by those who do the research work for the manufacturers. The passing of the platinum pin necessarily introduced a new problem, concededly a great one, and so far fairly well met by the makers of teeth; but there are phases of it still in the air, and it is greatly to be desired that the makers restore to the profession the well-nigh perfect colors and shades that vanished with the advent of the pin that is mistakenly said to be "just as good."

NOTE AND COMMENT

*A wonderful bird is the pelican,
His beak can hold more than his bellican,
Food for a week
He holds in his beak
I don't understand how in hellican.*

☞ The State legislature of Tennessee has been asked to recognize dental hygienists, and make it lawful for them to practice in the state.

☞ Shell shock is nothing new. We had it thirty years ago. It was at the county fair. The fellow who gave it to us had two shells and a small, rubber pea

☞ Says the *Wichita Eagle*: The other day the printer made us say, "Corporal Jones passed through here with a car load of cooties." We apologize. It was coolies he had with him.

☞ At the state dentist's convention held at St. Paul, Minn., an address was delivered by Dr. Chas. H. Mayo, Rochester, Minn., on the "Relation of Mouth Conditions to General Health."

☞ Members of the California State Dental Association have pledged themselves to aid in the re-establishment of practises of dentists returning from military service, more than 150 of which are in the Army and Navy.

☞ At Woonsocket, R. I., the committee on hygiene has raised the pay of the dental inspectors, and recommends the establishment of a school dental clinic.

☞ It is said that one out of every two families in the United States had a telephone in 1917, and the total number of calls made averaged 200 for every person in the country.

☞ The dental clinic of the children's ward of the memorial hospital at Worcester, Mass., has been the recipient of the proceeds of a one-act comedy entitled "The Happy Day."

☞ The New York legislature has been asked by the prohibitionists to see that "mother" is put into the cider when it is thirty days old.

☞ To which the wise clerk has suggested as an amendment that the legislature see to it that the cider is kept out of father, while it is thirty days young

¶ One of our colored soldiers urged that he be dismissed because he was "nuthin' but an expense to Uncle Sam." And a weary Tommy Atkins wrote to the house that formerly employed him: "Dr. Firm—Am I still with you? 'Cos if so, for the love of heaven get me demoralized."

¶ Recently at a meeting in Duluth the Theodore Roosevelt international memorial highway was born. This includes a route of never-ending wonders, linking the finest scenic routes in the Northern part of the country, and will probably become the most popular transcontinental trail in America.

¶ Four dentists for the public school dental clinics are required by the District Health Department at Washington, D. C. The positions require three and a half hours' work daily for the ten months from September to June, and the salary is \$700, plus the bonus allowed District of Columbia employees

¶ C. E. Field, *Medical Record* of February 15th, analyses 87 clinical cases of cancer coming under his observation. Nineteen showed recent developments of the tumor adjacent to bridgework, and 68 near plate work of various types. The malignancy is presented in 59 cases in the superior maxilla against 28 affecting the inferior maxillary region.

¶ In spite of this being the automobile age, Uncle Sam is finding no trouble in disposing of 45,000 mules left on his hands by the sudden ending of the war. And one thing may be said in favor of the American mule that cannot be said always of the automobile—he has only four cylinders but he seldom misses fire in any one of them.

¶ A memorial is proposed at Springfield, Ohio, for the soldiers and sailors. One of the three suggestions made to the committee by Mr. Geo. Dwight Pratt is that a fund of \$200,000 be created to establish a free dental clinic for the boys and girls of Springfield, and to be known as the "Springfield Soldiers and Sailors' Memorial Fund."

¶ Mr. Thomas Darling, Medical Officer at Camp Lee, Virginia, is credited with the statement that "if everyone of the thousands of persons, who have died recently from influenza, had brushed his teeth as he should, most of them would have been alive to-day. Cleansing the mouth is about the most effective measure of disease prevention there is."

¶ At a meeting of the city council at Salem, Mass., the establishment of a school dental clinic was discussed, but no action taken. Councillor Doyle termed the dental clinic a "fad," which the city could not afford. Mr. Bodwell did not agree with this theory, and thought a clinic would prove economical in the end and a big benefit to the rising generation. Are there no progressive dentists in Salem to produce statistics?

¶ For some years the United States has enjoyed a very satisfactory part of the Brazilian trade in dental instruments and supplies. Nearly all of the 1,500 dentists in Brazil are natives of that country, largely because of the rigid examination given in the Portuguese language that must be passed before dentistry may be practised. "Dental parlors in Rio de Janeiro are like those in the United States, as most of the equipment is of American manufacture," said a man who has lived in that city. "Because several American manufacturers of dental chairs increased their prices, German-made chairs of inferior quality, sold at a much lower figure, were cutting into our share of the trade just before the war. Customs duties are high and Brazilian importers are better able to dispose of the less expensive chairs."—*Scientific American*.

¶ Time was when a potato was a potato. The German government was the first to discover that the humble tuber could be dried and thus serve as a war ration for an indefinite period, and transported as readily as wheat or flour. The number of factories for potato drying in Germany increased from three in 1903 to about one thousand in 1918, having an annual capacity for crushing 50,000,000 tons, turning them into flakes or cubes for animal food and various grades of flour for human consumption. Most of the 6,000,000,000 bushels of potatoes produced in the world are grown in Europe and North America.

¶ Equally important is the future of the potato in supplying motive power, by which man may now develop the tropics, increase the transportation facilities of the temperate zone and reduce the number of food consuming animals which this zone employs. Alcohol may be produced from potatoes at the rate of from 200 to 400 gallons per acre, which makes it an active competitor of gasoline.

¶ Errors in carding porcelain teeth consist in transposing cuspids and bicuspid, both upper and lower. Right cuspids are found at the left, left cuspids at the right, more often in upper sets than in lower. Right bicuspid are found at the left, left at the right, also more often in upper sets than in lower. First and second bicuspid of the same side are quite as often found transposed in upper sets, rarely in lower. Unfamiliarity with characteristic tooth forms on the part of those intrusted with the carding is probably the chief cause of the misplacing of the teeth in question; and then, too, carelessness may have something to do with it. In either case the responsibility falls to the credit of the inspector ultimate, who should be and probably is an expert as a porcelain teeth proof reader. But proof readers sometimes grow proof weary, as newspapers and magazines occasionally depose. All manufacturers of great quantities of this form of supplies are guilty, the guilt of some greater than that of others. It is seen more frequently in sets of teeth from recently introduced moulds and may be said to be directly as the newness of the moulds, the newness lugging in the element of unfamiliarity with wretched carding as an annoying result.

¶ Up to the present time, on account of restrictive laws, only ten per cent of the potential water power resources of the country have been brought into use. Difficulties of coal supply and distribution have accentuated the crying need of a water-power development. The Geological Survey estimates that the streams of this country are capable of generating 60,000-000 horse power. Our industries and railroads require approximately 50,000,000 horse power to operate them. Water power contributes 16 per cent, the remainder being derived from coal, oil and other fuels.

¶ Announcement has recently been made by the American Chemical Society, 35 East Forty-first street, New York, that a new process has been discovered and perfected under the direction of Daniel C. Roper, of the commission of internal revenue of the U. S. treasury department, by which hundreds of gallons of clear dynamite-glycerine may be made from sugar and molasses. Germany first discovered this process when they ran short of fats. The glycerine is really a by-product, the same fermentation of sugar producing a sweet and bland trihydric alcohol.

¶ A cheap molasses called "black strap" brought from the West Indies subjected to the same process yields an excellent quality of glycerine, this treated with nitric acid produces nitro-glycerine, which in turn when incorporated with pulp or other inert substance becomes dynamite.

¶ Dr. George F. Burke of Detroit, Michigan is credited with this statement: "The mouth hygiene work in Detroit has apparently won for itself a very secure place. The various women's clubs, the poor people, and the people of means all support this work. Since this movement was first started some six or seven years ago the people generally have had the feeling that funds spent for the purpose of educating people in this field were well expended. The activities along this line not only cover the orthodontic clinic, but provision is made for systematic inspection by dentists of the children in both the parochial and public schools. In addition there have been established a number of dental clinics that take care of those unable to pay. A recent report covering the school year just closed shows that about forty thousand visits were paid to those clinics, about two-thirds of which were from old patients and the remaining one-third were new patients."

¶ All mouth examinations are made by trained dentists, instead of by school physicians which is bad practise, as they overlook so many alveolar abscesses, so much caries, and have so poor an understanding of occlusion, that cases are overlooked, which should be treated in early childhood. The treatment of cases of malocclusion has been the means of curing many children of defective speech.

¶ The annual appropriation for mouth hygiene in Detroit has risen from five thousand to twenty-five thousand in the period of six years. Children are taking much greater pride in their personal appearance. Mouth hygiene will do for the dental profession, what preventive medicine has done for the medical profession—place it on a higher and more useful plane."

¶ Villages and towns in the Hampshire Hills, near Northampton, Mass., are to have dental clinics where dentists will be in attendance on Saturdays. According to present plans, rooms will be provided in each village. Dentists going out from Northampton will carry instruments and materials. The different towns will share the expense. Work will be done free for poor children. The idea is to give to the small towns the same dental treatment available to Northampton school kiddies.

¶ For a number of months there have been received from China, eggs in liquid form, preserved by boric acid. Before the war the bulk of this went to Germany, and the small amount used here was for industrial purposes and confectionery. Until comparatively recent date liquid egg for food purposes was confined to the manufacture of cake and biscuits, but there is good reason to believe that they have been used in small restaurants for other purposes, including scrambled eggs. These boricized products are not healthful. It is suggested that the product be shipped in as dried egg, instead of in liquid form. Dried egg imports have proved very successful, and if the eggs are prepared and packed carefully in this form they are a wholesome and useful foodstuff.

¶ Some time since, before several Western New York agricultural, horticultural and other similar and related bodies in convention assembled, the distinguished blind legislator and publicist, Senator Gore, spread a mass of material of special interest to those more or less directly concerned in the soil and its products, and incidentally discussed some of the broader questions of export and those products in which we excel in quantity and often in quality. He said among other good things: "We produce more horses than any other country in the world; we produce more mules; we produce more cattle, more hogs, more sheep; we produce more *asses* and in greater variety than any other country on the globe." Here the audience stamped, and clapped and shouted its heartiest endorsement of the speaker's discerning statement; and again when he added: "I'm an authority on asses; I live in Washington."

¶ The faculty of Columbia College, New York City, representing the undergraduate department of the college, voted on January 20 that beginning with the next school year in September, principles of the selective draft shall be applied, by means of psychologic tests, in measuring the fitness of applicants for admission to the student body. Character, health and mental quickness will be the prime requirements rather than book learning. This action, is said to be in step with the progress of the times. Such tests were made in September, 1918, in the S. A. T. C. with applicants for commissions in the Army and Aviation Corps. The faculty of the college then decided to try them in the present instance. As with the Army, the purpose will be to test the mental quality of applicants for admission and to supplement rather than replace former conditions of entrance—*Army and Navy Journal*.

¶ The co-operation of physicians and legal dispensers is sought to aid in the fight against illegal drug traffic. Forty per cent of 1,750,000 habitual users of narcotic drugs in the whole country are in New York State. The state department intends to declare war to the finish, under the new law to go into effect on July 1st.

¶ Among the activities of the Forsyth Infirmary at Boston, Mass., is the offering of a banner to the school which excels in the care of the teeth. Dr. Harold De W. Cross states that "Children are taking an interest in the care of the teeth, and especial note has been taken of Mayhew school, grade 3, and Paul Revere school, grade 2, which two institutions have for two successive years qualified for the banner, which reads, 'All Dental Work Completed,' and which signifies that the entire class is possessed of clean and healthy teeth."

¶ According to the *Army and Navy Journal*: The use of films instead of plates for taking the X-ray photographs which have done so much to assist military surgery has developed on a large scale during the war. In the pre-war use of the X-ray, where probability of breakage was small and weight of shipments was not considered an important factor, plates were used almost exclusively. But when it became necessary to ship X-ray supplies to France, and carry on the X-ray photography under field conditions, the lighter weight, decreased cargo space, ease of handling and freedom of breakage made film the favorite. Its use, together with the automobile X-ray units, made it possible to X-ray a wound soon after it was received. The signing of the armistice left the medical supply depot with large quantities of these films coming in on contracts previously placed. The Surgeon-General has, therefore, directed that Army hospitals in this country adopt the film instead of the X-ray plate, as has already been done overseas.

¶ Knocking the Y. M. C. A. has become somewhat of a fad. It seems to give needed exercise to little people, to soreheads, to propagandists, many of whom have not hesitated to take advantage of the Association's huts, its paper, its pens, its ink, even its postage stamps, to get their enveloped spleen to the gullible at home. The fact is not only overlooked, it is ignored, that an army of ten thousand men gathered from all walks of life, handling millions of dollars and millions more of supplies, necessarily harbors some men of questionable uprightness. But so does the club, the college, the lodge; so, too, does "the house of God." The percentage of the morally warped in these institutions is just as fixed as that of the physically defective listed in life insurance tables. Why not trust to Miss Margaret Slattery's commonsense estimate of the American expeditionary forces and apply it in this case? She says of these splendid fellows: "They are not angels; they are not even saints; they are just men." The Y. M. C. A. is not crooning to apologists. It explains when necessary, but it has no need to apologize.

¶ With a recent issue of the oldest medical periodical in this country, with but two exceptions, the *Buffalo Medical Journal* ceases to exist as such and becomes one with the *Medical Review of Reviews*, published by others and in New York. As a monthly visitor it was always welcome, partly on account of the high character of its scientific and technical matter and its literary treatment, largely on account of the rare insight and comprehensive grasp of essentials by its accomplished editor, Dr. A. L. Benedict. Whether discussing cerebrospinal meningitis or good roads he was equally at home; and it was this intimate knowledge of things and breadth of view that compelled the attention of his readers. His "medium" is no more, but the medical profession may be trusted to see to it that his pen is not long idle.

¶ The recent discovery of vast peat deposits in the United States, and their possibilities cannot be over-estimated in importance, as coal and oil have suddenly become almost as valuable as life itself. We have been led to believe that our coal and oil were inexhaustible for all ordinary purposes. But we have learned that we must conserve. People are awakening to the value of these new riches, and many engineers are now at work on the problem of working these bogs to the best advantage. They are found in New England, New Jersey, Florida, along the Great Lakes, in North-eastern Pennsylvania, in the West, and on the Atlantic Coast. For two thousand years peat has been used as fuel in Europe, but it now promises other resources. It contains a cellulose which makes excellent food for cattle. Under special treatment it produces a good grain alcohol. It yields a fibre that can be used for rugs, and blankets, and a tan dye. It possesses all of the by-products of petroleum, and there is no doubt that the peat industry in the United States will develop into an enormous business.

¶ Says *The Scientific American*:

The National Physical Laboratory, the leading establishment in Great Britain devoted to scientific research, has grown so rapidly under stress of war requirements that it now has a staff of 532, as compared with 26 in 1902. The last annual report, although as in previous years since 1914 chiefly notable for the things that, for military reasons, it omits to mention, is an impressive record of strenuous and valuable work. New buildings are in course of construction to provide facilities for manufacturing a certain class of gages and for testing glass vessels for chemical work—both undertakings being on behalf of the Ministry of Munitions. The number of munition gages tested at the laboratory has amounted to nearly 10,000 a week. Additional large air channels have been required to meet the demands of the Air Ministry. More than 3,000 clinical thermometers have been tested per week. Three new clinical test baths have been provided, each having a capacity of 600 thermometers a day. Under the head of optics, besides routine testing on a large scale, important work has been done in testing the refractive properties of optical glass and in simplifying the calculation and design of optical systems.

¶ An English magazine devotes a dozen pages to a temporary molar which accidentally was drawn into the lungs. After lung abscess and a third operation a complete recovery is recorded.

¶ The British Medical Research Committee have been experimenting on substitutes for surgical materials employed by the Germans during the war. Soap substitutes were tried, and also glycerine with no satisfaction. The cost of synthetic rubber is very high. Rubber recovered from worn-out articles and worked over again was not found sufficiently elastic, but could be used for operating gloves with one-half pure, or synthetic rubber. Rubber bands were replaced by spiral springs. Vulcanite dental plates were replaced by aluminum—steel for instruments degenerated in the absence of nickel plating. Bandage material was replaced by wood fibre, paper, nettle fibre, etc. A wood fibre bandage is strong if dry, but can be sterilized only in steam and tears easily when wet.

¶ We are indebted to the *Boston Post* of February 15th, 1919 for the following:

¶ For the second time the children in the classroom of Miss Eleanor B. Jamieson, third grade teacher at the Mayhew School, have won the Forsyth banner for children with perfect teeth. "Clean teeth—good health" has been their slogan all year and now their reward is a handsome purple and gold banner, which was presented them yesterday afternoon by Dr. Harold De Witt Cross in behalf of Thomas A. Forsyth. Also present at the presentation were Miss Alma Taylor, acting supervisor of nurses for public schools; Miss Mary Callaghan, nurse for the Mayhew School, and Mr. Hines, principal of the school.

¶ It was a gala day for the children, who were all gathered together while the banner was presented; and then in return, they did their tooth brushing drill.

¶ After Mr. Forsyth had talked to them and congratulated them for their work, the children recited this poem, which was written for the occasion by Miss Mary Callaghan:

Mr. Forsyth, we all do thank you,
And our gratitude is sincere.
To show we all are grateful
We beg you, please to hear,
Our teeth are clean and healthful
And we've nothing now to fear
In the way of influenza,
And those other germs so queer.
We never now have toothaches;
To us you've made it clear—
In teeth not clean and rotten
That many germs appear.
When Uncle Sam wants soldiers
To Boston he will come
Because our boys are healthful;
Clean teeth—good health will win.
Our girls will be the teachers
And nurses in years to come.
To perpetuate your motto—
Clean teeth—good health—march on.
So, Mr. Forsyth, we thank you
And our gratitude is sincere.

We want good, clean humor for this page and are willing to pay for it. Send me the story that appeals to you as "funny," and if I can use it you will receive a check on publication.
Address: EDITOR, 186 Alexander Street, Rochester, N. Y.

¶ A couple of old rounders were sitting in a bar-room imbibing cocktails. Presently one of them remarked, "Do you know, Bill, I think I'll buy this hotel."

¶ "Wait till we've had a few more drinks," said Bill, "and I'll sell it to you."—*Boston Transcript*.

¶ Rich Old Aunt—Robert, I am going to make my will. I think I shall leave you—(pause).

¶ Nephew (eagerly)—Yes, aunt.

¶ Aunt—Before long.

¶ A humane society had secured a show window and filled it with attractive pictures of wild animals in their native haunts. A placard in the middle of the exhibit read:

¶ "We are skinned to provide women with fashionable furs."

¶ A man passed before the window, and his harassed expression for a moment gave place to one of sympathy. "I know just how you feel, old tops," he muttered. "So was I."—J. W. B., Rochester, N. Y.

¶ A staff officer while at the front saw a negro soldier who belonged to the 167th Field Artillery Brigade. Knowing the fine work the brigade had done, he stopped to question the soldier.

¶ "What do you do?" asked the officer.

¶ "Ah's de do'tendah ob de swahzant cans," he replied.

¶ "The what?"

¶ "De swahzant cans."

¶ It dawned on the officer that the man was in a regiment using the soixante-quintz guns, the French 75s.

¶ "I see," he said, "but just what do you do?"

¶ "Ah tends de do'," replied the negro. "Ah opens de do' an' a man puts in de shell. Den a man pulls de lonyard an' de gun has its little say.

¶ "Then what happens?"

¶ "We all steps back and says, 'Kaiser, count yo' soldiers.'"

¶ A British soldier was walking down the Strand one day. He had one leg and an arm off, both ears missing and his head was covered with bandages; he was making his way on low gear as best he could, when he was accosted by an intensely sympathetic lady, who said:

¶ "Oh, dear, dear! I cannot tell you how sorry I am for you. This is really terrible. Can't I do something? Do tell me, did you receive all these wounds in real action?"

¶ A weary expression came over that part of the soldier's face which was visible as he replied:

¶ "No, Madam; I was cleaning out the canary bird cage, and the d—n bird bit me."

—J. W. B., Rochester, N. Y.